

[in the news](#)[home](#) [site search](#) [org chart](#) [contact us](#) [web comments](#)

Kittitas PUD agrees to reduce load on BPA

[Click here for other BPA news releases](#)

Bonneville Power Administration

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FRIDAY, June 22, 2001

PR 60 01

*CONTACTS: [Ed Mosey](#) or [Mike Hansen](#), BPA (503) 230-5131
[Mark Kjelland](#), Kittitas, (509) 933-2700*

KITTITAS, Wash. – The Kittitas Public Utilities District and the Bonneville Power Administration signed a load reduction agreement today that will reduce the amount of power that this central Washington utility plans to buy from BPA by 10 percent, or 0.75 average megawatts, for one year starting in October 2001.

"The impact to the consumers and to the economy of the Northwest of BPA's rate increase cannot be overstated. We all need to do our part to conserve energy and curtail energy usage," said Kittitas General Manager Mark Kjelland. "Kittitas PUD has signed a 10 percent load reduction agreement with BPA and is committed to do our part to help keep BPA's rate increase as low as possible."

Steve Wright, BPA's acting administrator, praised the utility, saying, "Kittitas PUD has taken an important step toward load reduction and by doing so it is helping reduce the rate increase planned for Oct. 1. Kittitas is doing its part, and we hope that more BPA customers will do the same."

According to Kjelland, the reduction will be made up of major conservation programs and a load curtailment program.

"Negotiations are ongoing with all our customer groups," said Wright. "We hope that our recent load reduction agreements with other customers and now with Kittitas will encourage additional commitments – and soon."

BPA's goal is to reduce loads for the next two years so that the agency does not have to buy power in the extremely expensive wholesale market, which could result in far higher electricity rates for Northwest ratepayers. BPA expects that within two years sufficient new generation will have come online so that market prices will stabilize. Consumers can help by conserving as much energy as possible.

On June 6, BPA announced that the region's federal electricity system is headed for wholesale rate increases of 150 percent or more beginning Oct. 1 unless its industrial and utility customers make additional commitments to reduce energy use by the agency's June 22 deadline.

###

